

polypeptides and fibronectin polypeptides [a polypeptide or a small molecule] capable of binding to the α_4 subunit of VLA-4, [or combinations of any of the foregoing,] in an amount effective to treat [provide inhibition of onset of] diabetes.

(Amended) A method according to claim 16, wherein the composition comprises [a plurality of] anti-VLA-4 monoclonal antibodies or VLA-4-binding fragments thereof.

16. (Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the composition is administered at a dosage so as to provide from about 0.1 to about 10 mg/kg of antibody, antibody fragment, [polypeptide or small molecule,] based on the weight of the susceptible mammal.

(Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the composition is administered in an amount effective to provide a plasma level of antibody or antibody frag[e]ment in the mammal of at least l µg/ml over a period of 1-14 days.

Please cancel claims 11 and 19-20.

Please add new claims 25-29.

25. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the composition comprises an antibody or fragments of such antibodies capable of binding to the α_4 subunit of VLA-4.

26. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the composition comprises a soluble VCAM-1 polypeptide capable of binding to the α₄ subunit of VLA-4.

- 27. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the composition comprises a fibronectin polypeptide capable of binding to the α_4 subunit of VLA-4.
- 28. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the antibody is a recombinant antibody.